



American Hiker

The Official Publication of the American Hiking Society

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WASHINGTON UPDATE

RECREATION STUDY RECOMMENDED

Twenty years ago an Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission (ORRRC) was convened to study the status and future of outdoor recreation in America. That commission foresaw many of the changes in Americans' use of the outdoors, such as the tremendous increase in outdoor sports that has occurred in the past two decades.

The commission was successful in that many of the recommendations that grew out of its study were adopted. For example, the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the Land and Water Conservation Fund were just two of the ideas of the commission that were adopted.

Two decades after the original commission, its members reconvened last year to once again take stock of the situation. They recommended that with all the changes that have taken place, a new ORRRC is in order for the 1980s.

Such a proposal has now been put forth in Congress. The bill, HR 2837, was introduced earlier this year by Rep. Morris Udall (D-Ariz.). While it has enjoyed broad support, the bill has not moved out of committee.

At hearings in the spring, the Reagan administration came out in favor of the proposal. But, surprising to some, the bill ran into opposition from Rep. John Seiberling (D-Ohio). Seiberling is

considered a strong environmentalist and was one of the prime authors of the Alaska lands legislation that was passed several years ago.

At the hearings, Seiberling let it be known that he thought the administration's support for the bill was mainly symbolic--that administration officials saw it as a way to look as if they were doing something to make up for an otherwise poor environmental record. He feared that the administration would simply appoint the commission, then ignore the recommendations, which would join a long list of commissions whose reports gather dust on the shelf.

In addition, Seiberling reportedly believes that if the commission is appointed by President Reagan, it will be weighted in a way that the recommendations will be of no use in terms of protecting the environment.

On the other hand, there are others who believe that, because Reagan does not need congressional authorization to appoint the commission, he could go ahead and appoint one without consulting Congress, and therefore without its input. Passing the bill could keep Congress involved by defining the make-up of the commission.

At this point, the outcome of the controversy is hard to predict. The House Interior Subcommittee with jurisdiction over the bill will hold another hearing on it on August 2, perhaps followed by another hearing later. American Hiker will carry updates on the fate of the commission proposal as developments occur.



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AHS SIXTH ANNUAL HIKE-IN

"Spotlight on Clubs"

September 28-30

Prince William Forest Park
Triangle, Virginia

Spotlight on Clubs:

This year's annual Hike-In theme is "Spotlight on Clubs." Six different clubs will highlight one program that they have been successful with and lend that experience and expertise to other clubs present. Land acquisition, trail maintenance, the development of a new club and more. In addition, workshops on winter hiking and edible foods will be held to complement the program.

Get-togethers:

Friday evening everyone will have a chance to socialize on an informal basis, renew old friendships and establish new ones. Center Hiking Club of Washington, D.C., will give a short presentation on the areas' local hiking activities. Friday evening will end with an AHS campfire. BRING YOUR GUITAR, HARMONICA, AND SINGING VOICES.

After a full day's program Saturday, the local Girl Scout troop is cooking a home-made dinner for us. And to close that evening's activities, Karen Smith, a well-known local square dance teacher, will have us all on our feet dancing to some good old-time music.

Auction and White Elephant Sale:

After our seminars on Saturday, the all-time favorite AHS Auction/White Elephant sale will begin. Major manufacturers and local outfitters donate equipment, gear, clothers, etc., to this major event. Bring your checkbooks, there are some very good buys here. (Remember, all donations are tax deductible.) Have something you want to say good-bye to? Bring it along and donate it to AHS. (We'll find a new home for those items through our White Elephant sale.)

Keynote Speaker:

Charles Rinaldi, chief of land acquisition for the Appalachian Field Office of the National Park Service will address AHS and its guests Saturday evening.

Membership Meeting:

At every annual Hike-In it is time for our members to be included in the activities of AHS. At 9 a.m. Sunday morning, the Annual Membership Meeting will be held. Members of the board will be elected and other AHS business will be conducted. This is your opportunity to speak up as a member of the American Hiking Society.

cont.

Prince William Forest Park:

PWFP, administered by the National Park Service and just 35 miles south of Washington, D.C., has served as the AHS Hike-In site for several years. Prince William is a quiet, unhurried place that is ideal for observing nature, camping, fishing and walking the shaded trails.

Nature Hike:

Sunday morning after the general Membership Meeting, join a local ranger for a nature hike of the Park. Our ranger will give us

the history of the park and explain the Forest as it returns from early over abuse and human disruption. The park itself has 89 known species of trees and shrubs, pure stands of Virginia pine, a large variety of hardwoods, and understory of mountain laurel, holly, dogwood, redbud, and others. There are wild turkey, flying squirrel, ruffed grouse, red-tailed hawks, and numerous species of songbirds. Perhaps on our walk we'll come across some of the Forest's wildlife.

PROGRAM

OZARK HIGHLANDS TRAIL ASSOCIATION, Arkansas (Donna Kisling)

"A New Trail and the Organization That Started It"

Color slides by professional photographer Tim Ernst will show us the Ozark Highlands Trail that will eventually extend 150 miles through the Ozark Mountains.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB, New Hampshire

(Barbara Wagner)

"AMC Hut Program"

As manager of the Hut Program, Ms. Wagner will recount the history of AMC and describe its unique hut system of the Northeast.

(Reuben Rajala)

"Building and Maintaining the Trail"

Responsible for 1,000 miles of trails in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine, we will hear of the problems of building and maintaining in difficult terrain and how volunteers can assist through AMC's trail program.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARKS, California (Hulet Hornbeck)

"Western Trails Council and Land Preservation Programs"

Mr. Hornbeck's presentation will describe the successful land preservation programs in areas near populated urban corridors and will tell about the work of the western trails clubs and councils.

POTOMAC APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB (PATC) (Bill Amtmann)

"Care & Use of Tools"

A very entertaining presentation on the unlikely subject of the care and use of trail tools. Hear about a 10'-long shovel and brand-name products and what they will and won't do.

FLORIDA TRAIL ASSOCIATION

"Acquiring Land for Trails Through Private Lands"

The newly designated National Scenic Trail--the Florida Trail--will be the subject of this presentation and how lands were acquired for its completion. Florida Trail Association has had extensive experience in acquisition and will share that with us here.

Accommodations:

Prince William Forest Park (Camp #2) has several cabins with sleeping accommodations. You will need to bring along sleeping bags or bed linens, towels and personal effects. Wash rooms with cold showers and latrines. are located throughout the cabin groupings. There is also tent camping sites available. Registration for cabin assignments can be made in advance for groups or on site. (There are ample accommodations.)

Meals:

You will be responsible for all meals except Saturday evening dinner. This dinner will be included in your registration fee. You may bring your cook stove and do your own cooking on-site or you may drive to several fast-food or diner restaurants.

More detailed information will be sent with your registration confirmations.

Registration Information

Fees include accommodations, dinner on Saturday, all Hike-In workshops and activities. (AHS membership is not a requirement for attendance.) BRING A FRIEND ALONG!

Registrations Received Prior to Sept. 10:

AHS Member:	\$20
Nonmember	\$30

Registrations After September 10:

AHS Member:	\$25
Nonmember	\$35

Children under 12.....\$12.50
Saturday Registration Only.....\$10.00

AHS SIXTH ANNUAL HIKE-IN

Registration Form

Name _____
Street _____
City/State/Zip _____

Name _____
Street _____
City/State/Zip _____

_____ persons @ \$20 = \$ _____
_____ persons @ \$25 = \$ _____
AHS Membership \$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____

AHS Memberships: \$15 Individual
\$25 Family
\$10 Student
\$10 Senior
\$25 Foreign

Make check payable to American Hiking Society
and mail to: 1701 18th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

☐ I would like to make an additional
donation to the AHS Hike-In of
\$ _____.

NPS PUBLISHES CAMPING DIRECTORY

The 1984 edition of "Camping in the National Park System" is available from the U.S. Govt. Printing Office for \$1.50.

The pocket-sized booklet provides information on the 105 areas of the Park System that offer camping facilities. Information on fees, visitor regulations, safety tips, recreation opportunities, handicapped access, and facilities is included.

Copies can be ordered by sending a check or money order for \$1.50 to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Stock #024-005-00853-5. Makes checks payable to Superintendent of Documents.

* * *

"NATIONAL FOREST PLANNING, A CONSERVATIONIST GUIDE" AVAILABLE.

During the next few years, all of America's national forests will be replanned under the National Forest Management Act, an effort representing more than a decade of work by conservationists to correct forest management abuses. The public should and can play an important role in this planning process. Local citizens can help determine the future of their forests--whether and where oil and gas leasing will be allowed, whether certain pristine areas should be set aside and preserved as wilderness, whether recreation and wildlife habitat should take precedence over timber development.

The Wilderness Society's Forest Management Program, financed by a grant from Jennifer and Edmund Stanley, has published, in conjunction with other conservation groups, "National Forest Planning, A Conservationists' Guide." This 94-page handbook highlights pertinent portions of applicable laws and regulations concerning forest management as well as primary concerns of conservationists about their implementation.

Copies of this Guide are available for \$2 from the Forest Management Program, Wilderness Society, 1901 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20006.

* * *

AHS VOLUNTEER VACATION PROGRAM UNDERWAY

The first '84 VVP team has returned from Admiral Island, Alaska, after doing extensive trail maintenance and cabin repair on two different lakes on the island.

A member of the Maine Baxter State Park team, Linda Kurtz, vice president of a leading California trucking firm, has generously donated \$500 to the program. This money with other donations will provide the food for the Baxter State Park and Boston Harbor Island State Park teams.

* * *

VVP COMPUTER MATCHING GRANT APPEAL

DIGITAL EQUIPMENT CORP. has awarded Kay Beebe, director of the Volunteer Vacations Program, a 50 percent equipment grant towards the purchase of a Rainbow Personal Computer system.

This year's VVP program has generated thousands of requests for information. We have received coverage in several national publications which has resulted in a very successful '84 program. Kay has reported that 160 persons will participate in this year's program. Up to this point, all work has been done manually by Kay and a handful of volunteers.

We are at a point now where we need the assistance of a more sophisticated system--a computer.

WE APPEAL TO OUR MEMBERS NOW! Any donations toward this matching grant will be greatly appreciated. Send your checks to AHS, Computer Fund, 1701 18th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20009.

VOLUNTEER SUPERVISOR TRAINING IN TRAIL MAINTENANCE

A Workshop
sponsored by

The American Hiking Society
in cooperation with
The National Park Service

September 14-16, 1984

Place: Kennedy Grover Regional Recreation Area (northeast of San Francisco). East Bay Regional Park District and the El Sobrante Valley Senior Citizens will provide facilities for seminars.

Upon certification, all volunteers who complete this workshop will be qualified to lead crews for trail maintenance activities for the National Park Service and other federal and state agencies. The program will be presented by leaders in the fields of trail maintenance, volunteer coordination, trail design, legal responsibilities, and others. Key NPS representatives will participate and represent the federal agencies' role.

Friday afternoon

Welcome and introduction
Open Discussion - Expectations, Questions
Slide Presentation

Saturday

- Recruiting, Organizing & Sustaining Volunteers:
Volunteer role, organizing & supervising, leadership and motivation, VIP program
- Working with Government Agencies:
Government-volunteer partnership (consultations, benefits to management & volunteers, assigning responsibilities; cooperative agreements, agency roles), Volunteer Vacations Program, legal responsibilities, insurance, tort claims.
- Design, Construction & Maintenance
- Movie - U.S. Forest Service

Sunday

- Trail Standards
- How-To Handbooks
- Field Instruction:
Use and demonstration of tools, safety, hands-on training in design, layout, construction, and maintenance.
- Summation:
How to get started, discussions

Workshop Leaders

- Tom Floyd, AHS board member, has extensive experience in trail design and construction with the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club. During his term as PATC's supervisor of trails, more than 400 miles of trails were added to the system. He has held several seminars on trail work.
- Reuben Rajala, trails supervisor for the Appalachian Mountain Club which is responsible for over 1,000 miles of trails, shelters, tent sites. He is contributor and co-editor of AMC's Trails, Building, Maintenance.
- Kay Beebe, AHS board member and director of the AHS Volunteer Vacations Program. Her 15 groups in 1983 consisting of 130 volunteers have contributed 9,500 hours of trail work.
- Key personnel from the National Park Service, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Corps of Engineering, Soil Conservation Service.
- Hulet Hornbeck, chief of the Land Acquisition Department of the East Bay Regional Park District in Oakland. He has added 35 urban parklands and 65 miles of trails during his tenure, and 100 miles of additional trails in the planning stages.

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY/NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Volunteer Supervisor Training in Trail Maintenance

Workshop Registration Form

Name _____

Name _____

Street _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please answer the following:

1. To what extent have you participated in trail work trips? (i.e. foot, horse, vehicle)

2. Describe tools you are familiar with such as pickmattock, chainsaw, weeder (wing blade), Pulaski:

3. Describe types of trail terrain you are familiar with: (i.e. steep, rocky, bog)

4. Do you have any special skills that might contribute to the program?

5. Additional information you would like to include about yourself that you feel would add to the program:

_____ of persons @ \$25 each = \$ _____

Make check payable to:
American Hiking Society

1701 18th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

Please check one of the following:

_____ Camping

_____ Motel

_____ Other

Expected Time of Arrival _____

AHS REPRESENTED AT SEVENTH NATIONAL TRAILS SYMPOSIUM

AHS Secretary Butch Henley and Monty Montgomery attended the Symposium sponsored by the National Trails Council over Memorial Day Weekend. U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers of Arkansas, a leading conservationist, was there to speak to the group.

The three day meeting, hosted by the Arkansas Trails Council, studied trail development on national, state and local levels. Case studies reported on hiking and horse trails, bicycle, water ways, and trail bike and snowmobile areas.

Two National Recreational Trails -- the Bona Dea and Ozark Highlands -- were dedicated during the week.

The National Trails Council is an independent nonprofit organization, promoting the planning, development, maintenance and management of recreational trails systems. The Council represents the interests of motorized and non-motorized trail users.

* * *

TWO NEW PUBLICATIONS

Two new publications of possible interest to hikers have begun publication this year.

Walking World is a quarterly magazine aimed at promoting walking as sport and exercise. The subscription price is \$12; the address is P.O. Box 509; Gracie Station; New York, NY 10028.

The Walker's World is a monthly newsletter on places to go hiking. A recent issue described several hikes on Washington state's Olympic Peninsula, but they seemed mostly for beginners. Information was far from comprehensive; none of the hikes described involved backpacking. A charter subscription is \$29; the address is P.O. Box 13038; Charlotte, NC 28226.

MOVING?

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FOUR WEEKS IN ADVANCE

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City

State Zip

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